SUBJECTS.

85. *Establishment of a satrom and a travellers' bungalow at Alwaye.*

Mr. Thoma Thoma (Member, Alangad Taluk) said that, as Alwaye was a railway station and as it was also a sanitorium, a large number of travellers frequently visited the place. But the want of a satrom and a travellers' bungalow was badly felt. The necessity for supplying the want had been brought up at the third session of the Assembly and consideration was then promised. Nothing however was yet done. He requested that early steps might be taken for providing a convenient sattrom and a travellers' bungalow at Alwaye.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

PARUR TALUK.

86. *Establishment of an Additional First Class Magistrate's Court at Parur or Alwaye.*

Mr. D. Subramonia Iyer (Member, Parur Taluk) said that the Kottayam division was the largest division in point of area, population, congestion of work or any other consideration. It was also on the frontier, bordering on Cochin, Coimbatore and Madura. There was at present only one First Class Magistrate for the whole division. The hands of both the District and First Class Magistrates were always full, and the former found little or no time to attend to his magisterial work, along with his other important and multifarious duties. The empowering of the First Class Magistrate at Kottayam to hear criminal appeals was a step in the right direction and it afforded appreciable relief to the District Magistrate. But it had to be considered whether one First Class Magistrate could possibly cope with and do justice to the volume of work that he had at present. With the abolition of the First Class Magistrate's Court at Arukutti more work had fallen upon the Kottayam First Class Magistrate's Court. Besides his magisterial cases, he had to deal with land acquisition, puduval and poramboke cases. He had also to help the Peishkar in revenue matters in his capacity as Revenue Assistant. The result was that several cases were adjourned from time to time and the parties and witnesses as well as public servants suffered much pecuniary loss and trouble, especially as they had to travel along the dangerous backwaters from long distances. The distance also afforded ample facility for criminals to evade arrest or apprehension. Taking the taluks of Parur, Alangad, Kunnatnad, Muvattupuzha and Thodupuzha, which were remotely situated from Kottayam, it would be seen that they were equal in area to the Trivandrum and Padmanabhapuram divisions and in point of population to the Padmanabhapuram division alone. In view of the circumstances mentioned above, the Member requested that Government

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

SUBJECTS.

might be pleased to sanction another First Class Magistrate's Court for the Kottayam division and locate it preferably at Parur or at Alwaye.

Dewan's reply.—The Dewan Peishkar of Kottayam will be asked to report on the suggestion of the Member.

87. *Improvement of the Parur reclamation bund and the abolition of the bund cess.*

Mr. D. Subramonia Iyer (Member, Parur Taluk) said that Government seemed to have decided not to incur any further expenditure on the Parur bund. The bund enclosed within it 7,328 paras of paddy lands, which brought an annual income to Government of 22,000 fanams in the shape of tax and 14,000 fanams as bund cess. A sum of 1½ lakhs of rupees had already been spent on it. If the bund were now abandoned, all the above sums would be lost to Government and several lands within it would also be washed away. The existence and maintenance of the bund, the Member said, were therefore necessary. At present, owing to the influx of brackish water due to the breaches in the bund and for lack of arrangements for the proper drainage and for the supply of fresh water, a good portion of the lands came to be left uncultivated. But the bund cess due to Government was being regularly recovered, even though the ryots did not receive any benefit from the bund. The Member said that it was hard therefore that they should be called upon to pay the cess. He prayed (1) that the order of Government abandoning the improvement of the bund be re-considered, and (2) if that was not possible and the bund could not be rendered useful, that the bund cess might at least be abolished.

Dewan's reply.—Government are not prepared to spend any more money on the bund. The decision of Government is contained in G. O. No. 2711/P. W., dated 19th May 1907, which Government see no reason to reconsider. The question of the bund cess will be enquired into.

QUILON DIVISION.

AMBALAPUZHA TALUK.

88. *Transfer of the headquarters of the Ambalapuzha taluk to Alleppey.*

Mr. G. H. Davey of Alleppey (Member, Nominated) said that Alleppey, though one of the largest towns in Travancore, was very disadvantageously placed on the extreme limits of the two taluks of Shertallay and Ambalapuzha. He observed that no other large town was placed at such a disadvantage, the towns as a rule being the headquarters of the taluks. Besides the difficulty of a large

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly